

REMARKS

Prior to entry of this amendment, claims 1-30 are currently pending in the subject application. By the instant amendment, claims 11-15 and 26-30 are withdrawn. Claims 1-10 and 16-20 have been amended to depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 21. Other minor amendment to provide proper antecedent basis have also been provided. Claim 21 is the sole pending independent claim. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-10 and 16-25 are present to the Examiner for prosecution on the merits.

A. Election of Species

In the outstanding Office action, the Examiner has made an election requirement to the following species:

- Embodiment 1: Figures 1-7E;
- Embodiment 2: Figure 8;
- Embodiment 3: Figure 9.

The Applicant hereby elects Embodiment 1. As can be clearly seen from the revised dependency structure of the claims, claim 21 is generic. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-10, 16-20 and 22-25, depending therefrom, read on Embodiment 1.

B. Conclusion

Thus, Species 1, Embodiment 1 has been elected. If the Examiner believes that additional discussions or information might advance the prosecution of the instant application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below to expedite resolution of any outstanding issues.

Receipt of the initial Office action on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 10, 2004

  
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PETITION and  
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT CHARGE AUTHORIZATION

This document and any concurrently filed papers are believed to be timely. Should any extension of the term be required, applicant hereby petitions the Director for such extension and requests that any applicable petition fee be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1645.

If fee payment is enclosed, this amount is believed to be correct. However, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1645.

Any additional fee(s) necessary to effect the proper and timely filing of the accompanying-papers may also be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1645.